

PRION / HIGH RISK PATHOGEN PROCESS - HEME

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Joseph Medical Center, Tacoma, WA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Anthony Hospital Gig Harbor, WA | <input type="checkbox"/> Harrison Medical Center, Bremerton, WA |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Francis Hospital, Federal Way, WA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Elizabeth Hospital Enumclaw, WA | <input type="checkbox"/> Harrison Medical Center, Silverdale, WA |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Clare Hospital Lakewood, WA | <input type="checkbox"/> Highline Medical Center Burien, WA | <input type="checkbox"/> PSC |

PURPOSE

To provide a process for handling specimens with suspected Prion disease or high risk pathogen infections in the Hematology department.

BACKGROUND

The risk for healthcare transmission of Prion disease/Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), SARS, Avian Influenza, MERS, Ebola or other emerging pathogens is dependent upon the probability that an individual has or will develop disease. Precautions must be exercised for certain specimen types that may transmit disease.

RELATED PROCEDURES

CJD and High Risk Pathogens Protocol R-PR-MB-2212-01

SPECIMEN TYPES THAT MAY POTENTIALLY TRANSMIT A HIGH RISK PATHOGEN

- Cerebrospinal Fluids (high risk for Prion disease/CJD)
- Sputums, ET aspirates, BAL
- Blood
- Body Fluids, including thoracic/abdominal fluids and amniotic fluids
- Bone Marrow aspirates

GENERAL PROTOCOL

- Upon admission or diagnosis that a patient is suspected or known with Prion disease/Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD/vCJD) or a high-risk pathogen, the hospital care manager, house RN supervisor, or infection control will be notified.
- The lab will be notified by the provider, nursing staff or one of the above individuals, samples may or have been obtained from a patient with a suspected disease.
- The Environmental Services department will be notified to deliver a special double lined waste disposal container to the lab for disposal of all specimens and infectious waste.
- Specimens should be hand delivered to the lab and not sent through the pneumatic tube station to avoid possible contamination.
- PPE, including masks or face shield, goggles and disposable gown will be worn at all times when testing and disposing of these samples.
- Gloves are required and must be discarded after one use, setting up cultures or aliquoting specimens.
- Be careful to not touch surfaces that are not necessary for testing the specimen.
- Surfaces coming in contact with the specimen must be disinfected using 10% Bleach. All supplies used for testing must be soaked in 10% Bleach for 1 hour prior to discard.
- All specimens and materials are put into a special container provided, by environmental services. The manager, Coordinator, Lead Tech or tech in charge will notify Environmental services to pick up the container when ready for autoclaving and disposal.

HEMATOLOGY PROTOCOL

- Upon notification of specimen arrival, staff performing testing will wear PPE -consisting of eye goggles/face shield, gloves, mask and disposable gown.
- Gloves must be used once and disposed of in the special container provided.
- Body fluid testing should be performed manually to prevent possible automated instrument/waste contamination. Note: For Prion disease, the most likely specimen type will be CSF.
- Plate the specimen for cell counts and prepare slides behind a shield, biological or viral hood.
- Disposable counting chambers and pipets should be used, if available. Prepare slides manually.
- Close the lid of the cytocentrifuge before operation to avoid aerosolization and do not open the lid until the rotor has completely stopped. Wear eye goggles/face shield and mask when opening the lid to avoid possible exposure.
- Avoid touching surfaces, or equipment/supplies not necessary for testing.
- Disinfect ALL glassware, hemocytometers, disposable chambers, pipets and tips after use in 10% bleach for 1 hour.
- After decontamination, discard all of the items in the special double lined waste disposal container provided by environmental services.
- Wipe down all non-disposable equipment (i.e. certified pipets, cytocentrifuge) and surfaces which may have come into contact with the specimen with 10% bleach and allow to air dry. Do not use disinfectant wipes.
- When testing completed, immediately contact environmental services to remove the container to prevent accidental contamination.

REFERENCE

FHS Infection Prevention CJD protocol, 2003

FHS Environmental Services Policy and Procedure, #50.